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LETTER DATED 16 MAY 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you of the violations of the cease-fire provisions and of the terms governing the area of separation between Iraq and Iran that were committed by the Iranian side during the period from 30 March to 29 April 1994.

1. 30 March 1994

At 1600 hours, the Iranian side installed and concealed a single-barrel machine-gun inside the area of separation at coordinates 911756 (1:100,000 map of Saybah).

2. 30 March 1994

At 2030 hours, the Iranian side fired two light-arms rounds into the air in the direction of Iraqi forces from the Iranian position inside the area of separation at coordinates 004649 (1:100,000 map of Mandali) opposite the Iraqi Faruq post.

3. 1 April 1994

At 0930 hours, a small Iranian patrol boat with two military personnel on board was seen coming in the direction of the sea. At 1100 hours, it returned to its point of departure carrying the same persons.

4. 3 April 1994

At 0830 hours, an Iranian patrol boat with five persons in military uniform on board was seen coming from Abadan harbour in the direction of the sea. At 1100 hours, it returned to its point of departure carrying the same persons.

5. 3 April 1994

At 1300 hours, an Iranian military helicopter was seen in Iranian airspace opposite the Ziyadiyah area. It continued flying along the Iranian shore of the Shatt al-Arab and then headed towards the Iranian rear in the area opposite Umm al-Rasas Island.

6. 4 April 1994

At 1000 hours, an Iranian patrol boat with three military personnel on board was seen coming from Abadan harbour in the direction of the sea.

7. 4 April 1994

At 1115 hours, a small Iranian fibreglass boat was seen coming out of the Karun River with four civilians on board conducting a blindfolded person with his hands tied behind his back. The boat approached the Iraqi shore of the Shatt al-Arab and proceeded as far as the Sayhan area. At 1300 hours, the boat returned to its point of departure. The blindfolded person may have been one of the abducted Iraqi fishermen (the subject of our letter of 14 April 1994).

8. 5 April 1994

The Iranian side erected two small observation towers, one at coordinates 098585 equipped with a PKC machine-gun and manned by two persons, and the other inside the area of separation at coordinates 090585 (1:100,000 map of Saybah).

9. 7 April 1994

At 1100 hours, an Iranian patrol boat with three military personnel on board was seen coming from Abadan harbour in the direction of the sea.

10. 8 April 1994

At 2200 hours, the Iranian side fired three illumination flares to the left of the Iranian post inside the area of separation at coordinates 506009 (1:100,000 map of Kani Baz) opposite the Zayn al-Qaws slope.

11. 9 April 1994

At 1300 hours, an Iranian patrol boat with three military personnel on board was seen coming from Abadan harbour in the direction of the sea.

12. 12 April 1994

Between 0920 and 1200 hours, the Iranian side, employing five military personnel, erected a 200-metre stretch of barbed wire and obstacles along the Iranian rampart inside the area of separation at coordinates 901757 (1:100,000 map of Saybah) opposite the Iraqi forces.

13. 13 April 1994

At 1135 hours, a small patrol boat flying the Iranian flag with three civilians on board was seen coming from Abadan harbour in the direction of the sea. At 1230 hours, the boat returned to its point of departure carrying the same persons.

14. 13 April 1994

At 1400 hours, a small Iranian fibreglass patrol boat with four civilians on board was seen coming from Abadan harbour in the direction of the sea. At 1515 hours, the boat returned to its point of departure carrying the same persons.

15. 13 April 1994

At 1500 hours, an Iranian maritime patrol consisting of four persons, two in civilian dress and two in military uniform, abducted the Iraqi fishermen Najm Abd Allah Mansur, Bashir Najm Abd Allah and Sabir Jasim Hasan, seized their boat and took them to the Iranian side after firing on them while they were fishing in the Shatt al-Arab at coordinates 001260 (1:100,000 map of Saybah) (the subject of our letter of 21 April 1994).

16. 13 and 14 April 1994

Iranian forces bombarded the villages of Cham Biraw, Zari Bayah and Sayranah, one to two kilometres inside Iraqi territory to the north of Banjwin, and areas adjacent to the Hajj Umran region.

17. 14 April 1994

At 0800 hours, a small Iranian patrol boat with three civilians on board was seen coming from Abadan harbour in the direction of the sea. At 1425 hours, it returned to its point of departure carrying the same persons.

18. 14 April 1994

Between 0945 and 1120 hours, the Iranian side, employing eight military personnel, erected a 200-metre stretch of barbed wire and obstacles along the Iranian rampart inside the area of separation at coordinates 901757 (1:100,000 map of Saybah) opposite the Iraqi forces, extending the barrier erected on 12 April 1994 to a total length of 400 metres.

19. 14 April 1994

At 1030 hours, eight Iranians in civilian dress and armed with rifles on board a fibreglass boat went up to the Nasr pilot station belonging to the Iraqi Port Authority and located at coordinates 875980 (1:100,000 map of Bakr). They sought to establish the reason the station was in the area and searched it for a period of five minutes. They then left the station.

20. 15 April 1994

At 0800 hours, an Iranian military helicopter was seen in Iranian airspace opposite the northern part of Umm al-Rasas Island. It continued flying along the Iranian shore of the Shatt al-Arab and then headed towards Muhammarah harbour.

21. 15 April 1994

At 0910 hours, a group of some eight to ten individuals from the Iranian side was seen carrying out maintenance work on bunkers inside the area of separation at coordinates 518529 (1:100,000 map of Shaykh Faris).

22. 15 April 1994

Between 0945 and 1310 hours, the Iranian side, employing eight military personnel, erected a 40-metre stretch of barbed wire and obstacles along the Iranian rampart inside the area of separation at coordinates 901759 (1:100,000 map of Saybah) opposite the Iraqi forces, extending the barrier erected on 12 and 14 April 1994 to a total length of 440 metres.

23. 16 April 1994

Between 0[illegible]0 and 1330 hours, the Iranian side, employing six military personnel, erected a 20-metre stretch of barbed wire and obstacles along the Iranian rampart inside the area of separation at coordinates 929749 (1:100,000 map of Saybah) opposite the Iraqi forces.

24. 16 April 1994

At 1045 hours, the Iranian side, employing 10 personnel, erected a 50-metre stretch of barbed wire and obstacles along the Iranian rampart inside the area of separation at coordinates 909756 (1:100,000 map of Saybah) opposite the Iraqi forces, extending the barrier erected on 12, 14 and 15 April 1994 to a total length of 490 metres.

25. 17 April 1994

At 1930 hours, a group of some 10 individuals from the Iranian side carrying light weapons was seen inside the area of separation at coordinates 839089 (1:100,000 map of Khazinah) opposite the Iraqi forces.

26. 17 April 1994 and subsequent days

Iranian forces bombarded Wadi Hayzu and the Baykas slope to the east of Qal'at Dizah, four to six kilometres inside Iraqi territory. They also bombarded a number of locations near the districts of Hajj Umran, Banjwin and Khurmal, targeting populated areas.

27. 19 April 1994

Between 1030 and 1330 hours, the Iranian side, employing 17 personnel in military uniform, erected a 20-metre stretch of barbed wire and obstacles inside the area of separation to the east of Atabah at coordinates 900754 (1:100,000 map of Saybah), extending the barrier erected on 12, 14, 15, and 16 April 1994 to a total length of 510 metres.

28. 19 April 1994

At 1100 hours, a group of individuals from the Iranian side was seen installing a single-barrel machine-gun at the Iranian flag emplacement inside the area of separation at coordinates 718209 (1:100,000 map of Hawr al-Hawizah) opposite the Shayb post. They then installed communications equipment and laid a line from the Iranian flag emplacement at coordinates 718209 to the position located behind the Iranian flag emplacement. They then installed a single-barrel machine-gun inside the area of separation at coordinates 663244 (1:100,000 map of Hawr al-Hawizah) opposite the Iraqi Karamah post.

29. 19 April 1994

Between 1130 and 1330 hours, the Iranian side, employing five personnel, erected a 10-metre stretch of barbed wire and obstacles inside the area of separation along crossing No. 5 at coordinates 910788 (Shalamjah; 1:100,000 map of Saybah).

30. 20 April 1994

Between 0830 and 1000 hours, the Iranian side, employing 13 personnel, erected a 20-metre stretch of barbed wire and obstacles inside the area of separation to the east of Atabah at coordinates 913754 (1:100,000 map of Saybah), extending the barrier erected on 12, 14, 15, 16 and 19 April 1994 to a total length of 530 metres.

31. 20 April 1994

At 0930 hours, a vehicle carrying 10 Iranian soldiers was seen coming from the Iranian rear in the direction of the Iranian Arshidah post at coordinates 614339 (1:100,000 map of Hawr al-Hawizah). After a 30-minute halt, the vehicle with the soldiers on board proceeded to the location inside the area of separation at coordinates 587347 (1:100,000 map of Hawr al-Hawizah) opposite the Iraqi Arshidah post, where they dug positions. Two more military vehicles carrying 30 Iranian soldiers were also seen, and they halted at the same place and the soldiers proceeded to dig positions. After 30 minutes, the vehicles returned to the Iranian rear.

32. 21 April 1994

Between 0900 and 1330 hours, the Iranian side, employing 10 military personnel, erected a 20-metre stretch of barbed wire and obstacles inside the area of separation to the east of Atabah at coordinates 918752 (1:100,000 map of Saybah).

33. 21 April 1994

As the Iraqi vessel Al-Fida' was leaving the Shatt al-Arab from the Basra silo under ballast it was intercepted by three armed Iranian boats at a point near Ra's al-Bayshah. The vessel was halted under threat and was boarded by one of the members of the Iranian force. He sent a message using a VHF apparatus and then left the vessel.

34. 22 April 1994

At 1000 hours a small red and white fibreglass Iranian patrol boat flying the Iranian flag with three civilians on board was seen coming from Abadan harbour in the direction of the sea. At 1430 hours, the boat returned to its point of departure carrying the same persons.

35. 24 April 1994

Iranian forces carried out an artillery bombardment of districts adjacent to the township of Banjwin, targeting populated areas.

36. 26 April 1994

Between 0800 and 1130 hours, the Iranian side, employing eight personnel including two officers, erected a 40-metre stretch of barbed wire and obstacles inside the area of separation at coordinates 918750 (Kharnubiyah; 1:100,000 map of Saybah).

37. 26 April 1994

At 1300 hours, an Iranian patrol boat with three military personnel on board was seen coming from the sea in the direction of Abadan harbour.

38. 26 April 1994

The Iraqi vessel Al-Fida', mentioned in paragraph 33 above, was returning laden from Umm Qasr harbour and heading for the Basra silo. As it was passing in the same area, Ra's al-Bayshah, at about 1030 hours, it was intercepted by two armed Iranian boats. They addressed to it the same warning as before, instructing it to reduce speed and lower a rope-ladder so that one of the members of the Iranian force could board. The warning was ignored, and the vessel continued under way accompanied by the two Iranian boats for a period of 15 minutes before they left for the Iranian shore.

39. 28 April 1994

Iranian forces carried out an artillery bombardment of the Baykas slope and the districts of Halshu, Biklu, Darrah Shamanah and Shalmarah to the east of Qal'at Dizah, five to eight kilometres inside Iraqi territory. In the bombardment, one inhabitant was killed and three wounded.

40. 28 April 1994

At 1520 hours a green Iranian patrol boat flying the Iranian flag was seen coming from Abadan harbour in the direction of the sea with three civilians on board.

41. 29 April 1994

A group of Iranian fishing boats approached to a distance of 10 metres from the Iraqi shore of the Shatt al-Arab in the Ma'amir wharf area inside the area of separation at coordinates 324248 (1:100,000 map of Saybah).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative